



PATENT

Docket No.: AFAN-003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 3737

Examiner: Barry Pass

Serial No. 09/817,361

Filed: March 20, 2001

In re Application of: Natalia I. Afanassieva

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SPECTROSCOPIC ANALYSIS OF HUMAN OR ANIMAL TISSUE IN OR BODY FLUIDS

Certificate of Mailing
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to Director of Patents, Box Amendment, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 2-13-03, Signed _____

Linda Barron

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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FEB 21 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Director of Patents
Box Amendment
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a Response to the Office Action dated August 14, 2002 in connection with the above-identified application.

In the event the patent office charges a fee for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 50-0612. An additional copy of this page is enclosed.

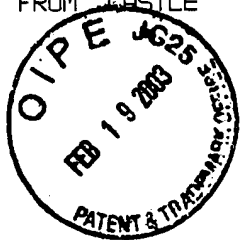
Respectfully submitted,

SIERRA PATENT GROUP, LTD.

Kristin C. Castle
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Dated: February 13, 2003

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

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Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed on August 14, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Kindly amend claims 2 and 8 as follows: